

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
NORTHERN DISTRICT OF ILLINOIS  
EASTERN DIVISION

YAODI HU,	)	
	)	
Plaintiff,	)	Case No. 08 CV 1032
	)	
v.	)	Judge Holderman
	)	Magistrate Judge Cox
PEARL RIVER PIANO, USA,	)	
AL RICH and BOB SAARI,	)	
	)	
Defendants.	)	

**JOINT INITIAL STATUS REPORT**

Plaintiff Yaodi Hu and Defendant Pearl River Piano Group America, Ltd., incorrectly sued as Pearl River Piano, USA, (hereinafter referred to as "Pearl River") hereby submit this Joint Initial Status Report to the Court pursuant to the Court's Case Management Procedures. The attorneys of record for the parties of record are as follows:

Attorney for Plaintiff: Yaodi Hu (pro se), 218 W. Cermak, Chicago, IL 60616; (773) 216-3173. Attorneys for Defendant Pearl River: David L. King (lead trial attorney), Paul E. Kelly, M. Kellett McConville, Kelly & King, P.C.; 20 North Clark Street, Suite 2900, Chicago, IL 60602; (312) 553-5290

(1) **Nature of Claims and Counterclaims.** Pearl River distributes pianos in the United States that are manufactured by its parent company in China. Plaintiff Yaodi Hu has filed a three-count Complaint against Pearl River, Bob Saari, and Al Rich. Plaintiff alleges that he was awarded a dealership contract to sell Pearl River pianos in the Chicagoland area and specifically within the Chicagoland Chinese community. Plaintiff claims that the Defendants improperly terminated the dealership relationship with him. Plaintiff alleges in Count I that his

alleged termination was racially motivated in violation of 42 U.S.C. 1981. In Count II, Plaintiff claims the Defendants violated the Sherman Act (15 U.S.C. § 2). In Count III, the Plaintiff claims that Defendants breached on an oral contract. The Defendant Pearl River has filed an Answer denying all pertinent allegations of liability and has asserted affirmative defenses. A copy of the Complaint and Pearl River's Answer and Affirmative Defenses is attached. Summons has recently issued as to Defendants Al Rich and Bob Saari. There presently are no counterclaims or third party complaints.

(2) **Relief Sought.** Plaintiff is seeking treble compensatory damages totaling \$500,000, punitive damages in the amount of \$5,000,000 and declaratory and injunctive relief. (Plaintiff's Complaint, par. 43-44)

(3) **Matter Referred/Briefing Schedule.** A copy of the Minute Entry Referral Order of the Honorable James F. Holderman of July 16, 2008 is attached. A settlement conference has been scheduled for April 1, 2009 at 1:30 p.m. There has been no briefing on the matters referred. Trial is scheduled for September 28, 2009.

(4) **Consent.** The Parties have not consented to trial before the Magistrate.

(5) **Settlement.** The Parties have had preliminary discussions with respect to a possible resolution but without success. A settlement conference is scheduled for April 1, 2009.

Dated: August 12, 2008

YAODI HU

By: s/Yaodi Hu

Yaodi Hu  
219 W. Cermak  
Chicago, IL 60616  
(773) 216-3173

PEARL RIVER PIANO GROUP

By: s/David L. King  
One of the attorneys for Defendant  
PEARL RIVER PIANO GROUP  
David L. King, ARDC No. 3128899  
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**PROOF OF SERVICE**

I, David L. King, attorney for Defendant PEARL RIVER PIANO GROUP AMERICA, LTD., incorrectly sued as PEARL RIVER PIANO, USA served a copy of the foregoing **JOINT INITIAL STATUS REPORT** to:

Yaodi Hu  
219 W. Cermak  
Chicago, IL 60616

electronically on August 12, 2008 at or before 5:00 p.m.

s/ David L. King  
One of the Attorneys for Defendant  
PEARL RIVER PIANO GROUP AMERICA, LTD.

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